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Jobs fear as chain calls in the administrators

ELECTRICAL retail chain Comet – which has a store in Banbury – has confirmed that it will go into administration this week.

The company, which has 240 stores nationally and employs about 6,500 staff, was not able to confirm how many people it employed at the Banbury Cross Retail Park.

Comet was bought by investment firm OpCapita in February.

A statement from the company said: "Comet Group Limited can confirm that it has taken steps to seek the protection of the court with a view to the company entering into administration during week commencing November 5, 2012.

"The board is urgently working with its advisers to seek a solution to secure a viable future for the company."

John Hannett, general secretary of the shopworkers' union Usdaw said: "This is disastrous news for Comet's 6,500 employees and more grim news for the UK High Street and the economy.

"We urge any administrators appointed to keep stores trading for as long as possible to enable a buyer or buyers to be found."

The store at the Banbury Cross Retail Park

TAXI FARE SHAKE-UP

By Oliver Evans

TAXI fares will cost the same all year round under plans that have divided hackney carriage drivers.

A drivers' association wants councillors to have equal pricing for day, night, Sunday and Bank holiday fees for Cherwell's 123 vehicles.

This would see some fares increase by more than 10 per cent but a massive drop in Christmas and New Year tariffs.

The North Oxfordshire Hackney Association said Cherwell District Council must make the change today to cover the drivers' costs and cut "confusion".

It would only apply for taxis that can be hired in the street or at taxi ranks and would not affect private hire firms.

The 6am-to-10pm day base rate would go from £2 to £2.50 and each 101 subsequent metres would rise from 11p to 12p.

This would increase a two-mile journey from £5.08 to £5.86 and four miles from £8.60 to £9.70.

The 10pm-to-6am night base rate would go from £2.30 to £2.50, as would the 6am-to-1pm Sunday and Bank holiday rate.

Yet Christmas and New Year costs would be massively cut, with the base rate down from £4 to £2.50 and each 101 metres 12p instead of 25p.

This would, for example, see a four-mile journey costing £9.70 instead of £19.

A council consultation found of the 62 drivers who responded to the consultation on time, 33 drivers opposed the move, while 29 supported it with concerns that few would work for less over Christmas.

A council report said: "Several responses referred to concerns over the current economic climate and whether or not the increases would be acceptable to customers."

Fares last went up in 2008.

But association chairman Choudhry Khalid Mahmood Anjum said there had been "a lot of confusion" over different fares, adding: "It will be easier."

He said: "Everything is going up, petrol prices, insurance, cost of living and on public transport.

"This is about us asking for a small increase."

A cut in the Christmas rate would help drivers compete with cheaper private hire firms, he added.

The report says councillors should back the plan – or an alternative from other cabbies that supports the increases but keeps the former Christmas pricing.

Banbury taxi driver Asjid Hussain

Banbury taxi driver Asjid Hussain hit out, saying: "It is not like people have got money at the moment.

"I know we are out of the recession but it doesn't mean everybody is quids in."

But Mazhar Hussain, a Banbury driver for 15 years, said: "When the fares went up last time, the fuel was £1.20 a litre. Now it is £1.35, £1.40. Everything is going up."

Breda Lamb, who runs transport for Banbury OAP charity WRVS, said: "That is just extortionate. A lot of people we deal with just couldn't afford that. I don't know what they will do."

The licensing committee will be asked to make a decision at 2.30pm today at Bodicote House, White Post Road, Bodicote. The public can attend.

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InBRIEF

Drama over firework

A DISCARDED firework, left in a double garage in Banbury, led people to be evacuated from their homes due to fears of an explosion.

Two fire engines from Banbury were sent to the incident at Woburn Close at 11pm on Saturday. They arrived to find smoke billowing from the garage, which had fireworks and a barbecue gas cylinder inside.

Local people were told to stay indoors as firefighters went into the garage and extinguished the blaze quickly.

Lecture on the economy

ACADEMIC Dr Peter Vardy is to give a talk at Sibford School on the state of the economy. The former vice-principal of Heythrop College, University of London, will give a talk titled *The Financial Crisis: could it be regarded as a moral failure?* The free lecture on Friday, November 16, will be held in the Sibford Ferris school's newly refurbished hall. The talk will begin at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the school reception or on 01295 781216 or abromhall@sibfordschool.co.uk

Views sought on solar plan

A DEVELOPER is seeking council views on plans for a solar farm in Sibford Ferris.

ABDS Ltd has submitted a screening option to seek Cherwell District Council's views on the plan for land north of Field Barn in Hook Norton Road.

No further details have been given in the planning application made to the council.

Police commissioner hustings are held a week before the poll

From left, Lib Dem candidate John Howson and Labour's Tim Starkey, debate chairman Prof Ian Loader, and candidates Anthony Stansfeld (Conservative), Geoff Howard (Independent) and Barry Cooper (UKIP)

Candidates go head to head in fight for top job

By Ben Wilkinson

THE fight for the region's new top police job came to Oxfordshire on Monday night.

All six candidates chasing the £85,000-a-year Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner job debated at the hustings at Oxford Town Hall.

Each candidate made a short speech before the panel took questions from the 150-strong audience.

Discussion ran from police cuts to detection rates and privatisation of the force. The vote for the new job will take place next Thursday.

Oxford magistrate John Howson said, after suffering a burglary in March this year, he understood what it was like to be a victim. He said: "For the first time we do have some form of accountability for the police.

"If elected, I will put improving detection rates on the top of my agenda.

"If I don't achieve that I will have failed."

Tory Anthony Stansfeld, a current police authority member, said: "I believe to actually do this job you have to actually understand the police. I know the police."

UKIP's Barry Cooper said foreign aid should be cut before police budgets were reduced, adding: "Cuts to the police are morally and ethically indefensible.

"All the meat has been trimmed and anything more will start cutting into muscle."

Independents Patience Awe, from Reading, and Geoff Howard, from Slough, said voters should steer clear of the political candidates as the role was to be impartial.

When asked about the region's "frightening" detection rate by a member of the audience, Ms Awe said: "It sets us a challenge to do a better job."

Labour's Tim Starkey said: "Low morale is crushing the police. I am proud to be Labour, but the ideas I bring to this debate are my own. I would ask you not to focus on labels, but who is best for the job."

One member of the audience Lesley Kumiega said after the meeting: "Many of the people standing are slightly more impressive than they would appear, or one would read.

"I need to think more deeply about it. It would be better to have a panel than an individual."

The debate was chaired by Prof Ian Loader, director of the Criminology Centre at the University of Oxford.

It was organised by Tim Sadler, chairman of the Oxford Safer Communities Partnership.

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PRESS COMPLAINTS COMMISSION

Housesitter who stole laid the blame on his daughter

A FATHER of four, who blamed the theft of expensive designer handbags on his two-year-old daughter, has avoided prison.

Window cleaner Spencer Russell stole £10,000 worth of clothes, shoes, and accessories, from the home his wife was paid to look after while the owner was away.

Russell, of Melbourne Close, Banbury, stole from the house in Souldern, near Bicester, between July and November last year.

And the 47-year-old put stolen items up for sale on internet auction site eBay, Oxford Crown Court heard on Friday.

But when homeowner Barbara Camm spotted items were missing Russell said his daughter had taken them to play "dressing-up".

And when he returned some handbags, he planted dummies and sweet wrappers in them. He later admitted the crimes and was handed an eight-month prison sentence, suspended for a year.

Recorder Julian Knowles said he had spared Russell an immediate jail term because he now had a job and had a family to look after.

But, in sentencing, he said: "You rooted through Mrs Camm's property on a regular basis, sorting out what tasty morsels you wanted to sell for yourself.

"They didn't belong to you and you should have kept your hands off them.

"Rather pathetic excuses were given that perhaps your two-year-old daughter had put them in your car."

He added: "This was a nasty, underhand, unpleasant crime."

Russell was also told to do 200 hours of unpaid community work and to pay his victim £500 compensation.

Housing list cuts are agreed

COUNCIL bosses have agreed to take nearly three-quarters of people seeking social housing off its housing waiting list.

Cherwell District Council's executive backed the housing reforms on Monday night.

Two of the five waiting-list bands, where people are placed in according to their needs will be scrapped, wiping 2,800 people off the council's 4,000-strong list. The council is responsible for prioritising social housing through providers such as Sanctuary Housing.

It said removing the two bands for those in lowest need, would save the council administration costs.

It said the change – allowed through the Government's Localism Act – would "enable staff resources to be more focussed".

Civic bosses said those in the two scrapped bands had no "realistic" chance of getting homes. Just 414 people were offered council houses last year.

Council finance chief Ken Atack said: "We are protecting the most vulnerable."

Petition website launched after council says plan is too remote

Battle for new nursery

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to convince council bosses to back plans to open the first and only day nursery in Adderbury.

An online petition is seeking support for a 35-place nursery at The Hub, at Twyford Mill in Oxford Road.

Cherwell District Council threw out the plan in August, saying the "isolated" building had poor public transport links and that this would lead to "excessive traffic" which "would be detrimental to the safety and convenience" of road users.

But Martin Rye, the scheme's backer, is considering putting in another application. He hopes public support and more information will see the plan approved.

A nursery is a "necessity for working people", he said, adding: "There is no facility like this in the village.

"The Government is pushing for working mums to get back to work and all other surrounding villages have got facilities like this – but not Adderbury."

He said: "It is not on a bus route. Nobody takes their child to nursery via a public bus.

"We live in a village which is, by definition, cut off from the rest of the busy world – so, wherever you need to go, you get in a car."

One parent, who commented on the petition website, said: "People who would require the nursery places would already be on the road, on their way to work. Therefore, I do not feel it would cause any more congestion."

Another said: "I currently work towards Oxford and have to drive my child to Kidlington.

"A local nursery would make access easier and would mean my child could find friends in the local area."

Oxfordshire County Council objected to the plan, as the site could only be reached by car and "exceeded a realistic walking distance" for youngsters.

It said there was a "lack of continuous and adequate footpaths and associated infrastructure, such as dropped kerbs and tactile paving".

The plan could also conflict with the Oxford Road and traffic on the site. More information was needed on transport issues, it said.

But former county council leader and Bloxham councillor Keith Mitchell branded Cherwell's decision "perverse".

He wrote on his blog: "This is a nursery for children aged six months to four years – and planners are expecting them to walk or cycle there.

"Furthermore, they are expecting accompanying parents to walk their charges to the nursery and then to return to their homes to get in their cars to go to work. In what world do these planners live?"

The Conservative said: "Here we have a facility that working parents are crying out for."

He said he hoped further information from the applicant would see approval given.

The petition is at adderburydaynursery.co.uk

By Oliver Evans

Keith Mitchell, who labelled council verdict 'perverse'

InBRIEF

Top players at the oche

FOUR of the world's top professional darts players are gearing up to go head to head at Banbury's Spiceball Leisure Centre today.

World No.3 James Wade, former World Champion Mark Webster, European Champion Simon Whitlock & Dutch legend Raymond van Barneveld, the five-time World Champion, are set to compete, alongside local qualifiers, in the inaugural Allstars of Banbury.

The local players, who will be hoping to cause an upset against some of the best darters in the world, include 18-year-old Stephen Wright, of Banbury.

Seasonal fair

A CHARITIES Christmas bazaar will be held in the Banbury Town Hall, Bridge Street, on Saturday.

The 9.30am to 3.30pm event is free and proceeds will benefit local charities and clubs. For information call 01295 250340.

The Katharine House Hospice

Santa Fun Run - 9 Dec
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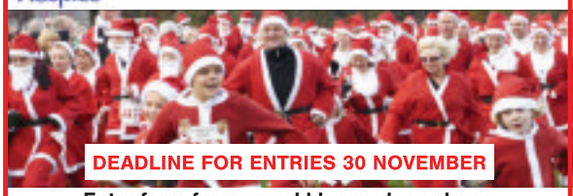

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Call as Remembrance day parade looms

Cameron in plea for everyone to salute the fallen

PRIME Minister David Cameron has led a call for everyone in Oxfordshire to wear their poppies with pride.

The Oxfordshire MP backed the county's Royal British Legion's poppy appeal.

He was backed up by fellow Oxfordshire MP Sir Tony Baldry.

Mr Cameron said: "The Poppy Appeal is a poignant reminder of the sacrifice our troops and their families have made and continue to make.

"As Prime Minister it is both an honour and a privilege to join in leading the tributes to the brave men and women who have lost their lives in war on Remembrance Sunday.

"This year I know that the Royal British Legion is aiming to raise £42m and all the money raised will go towards providing much-needed support for the Armed Forces and their families.

"Our Armed Forces deserve our deepest respect and gratitude and so I am urging everyone to get involved; wear your poppies with pride and support the 2012 Poppy Appeal."

Banbury MP Sir Tony said: "One of my great uncles, who lived in Chipping Norton and won the military medal in the First World War on the Western Front, barely ever again spoke on returning home, such was the combination of the effect of being gassed and the trauma of conflict. He lived in Chipping Norton until his 80s, so

By Freddie Whittaker

lived with the scars of combat and conflict for 60 years.

"So, the money raised from the sale of poppies is of vital importance in supporting the welfare of those who have worn the Queen's cap badge."

● Banbury's Remembrance Day event will begin at 10.15am from Broad Street on Sunday.

It will then proceed to St Mary's Church, via High Street and Horsefair, for a service.

Members will leave for the cenotaph in People's Park to lay wreaths at 11.45am.

Prime Minister and Oxfordshire MP David Cameron

Krista Wilson, from Broughton, caused something of a stir when she arrived at the archive project with this medal. It was awarded to her grandfather, who fought the Russians in Estonia in 1918. It was the first Estonian contribution to the project OX55317

Rallying call answered with a host of First World War memorabilia

WITH Remembrance Sunday in the forefront of people's minds, a First World War exhibition came to Banbury at the weekend.

The Europeana 1914-1918 Family History Roadshow took place from 11am to 4pm on Saturday.

Families were invited to bring along photographs, letters, diaries, film and audio recordings as Europe's digital museum joined forces with Oxford University and the British Library to create an archive of previously untold stories of those involved in the conflict.

Historians and experts from the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, the Western Front Association and Oxfordshire Museum Service were on hand to talk about the significance of finds.

Acting Sgt Peter Neal, from the Rifles Living History Roadshow, was one of those who was introducing people to the weapons of the First World War and in particular a short magazine Lee-Enfield.

Acting Sgt Neal said: "The day went fantastically. It was an opportunity to play my part in sharing my knowledge about the soldiers' way of life from 1914 to 1918. I enjoy telling people what it was like and then finding they have learned something new."

To find out more about the Europeana project visit europeana1914-1918.eu

ABOVE: Robert Webster, from Bicester, with a photograph of his great uncle, Capt EP Orr-Ewing, Mr Webster's relative died at the Somme in 1916. Robert was keen to pass on his memorabilia as he is the last in the family line and was worried the family history would be forgotten

ABOVE: Alan Butler, from Banbury, with medals won by his grandfather, Sgt Herman Seymour Butler, a former landlord of the Railway Inn, Chipping Norton, who served in France and at Gallipoli. The medals include the Military Medal (on the left)

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ABOVE: Some of the extraordinary and moving photographs which were being recorded as part of an archive project about the First World War at Banbury Museum

LEFT: Acting Sgt Peter Neal, from Banbury, and Rifleman Gary Wise, from the Rifles Living History Roadshow, stand guard at the entrance to the exhibition

RIGHT: Tony Langenegger and Emily Williams brought a collection of photographs and letters from Tony's great grandfather and great uncle, which Mike Cross, of Soldiers of Oxfordshire, described as 'extremely interesting'

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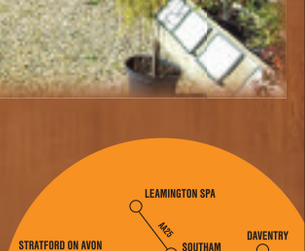

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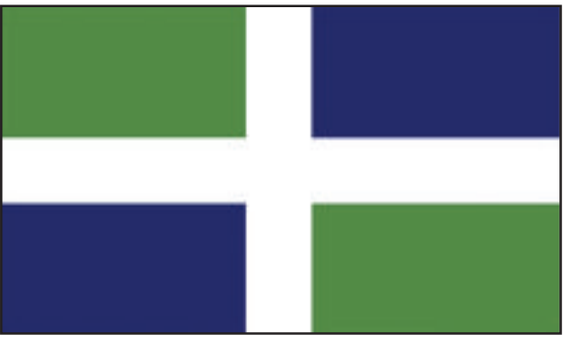

The proposed design for an Oxfordshire flag

Campaigners want to fly the flag

THIS is the flag which could become Oxfordshire's own.

A campaign group is hoping to give Oxfordshire its own flag and has drawn up the "St Frideswide cross" as a potential design.

Edward Keene, chairman of the Oxfordshire Association, said: "A number of counties have a flag and increasingly there is an interest in getting them for those places which don't.

"Flags have a lot of good things going for them, not least in promoting some sort of solidarity and giving people something to unite around. It adds to a county's distinctiveness."

Named after the patron saint of Oxford, the flag suggested by the association has a white cross with blue and green quartering.

The colours are chosen as a representation of both town – green – and gown – Oxford blue – while also calling to mind the rivers and fields of Oxfordshire.

Currently 30 counties around the UK have their own flags, including Buckinghamshire, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire.

There are two ways for a flag to become a county's official one – either by public vote or by widespread use of the design by bodies in the county, such as sports clubs.

Ian Hudspeth, leader of Oxfordshire County Council, said: "There is already a county council flag – and we represent Oxfordshire."

The administrative county of Oxfordshire was granted a coat of arms in 1976 and this has been turned into a banner of arms.

The Oxfordshire Association was set up in 2009 to "maintain, enhance and promote" the county.

As well as campaigning for a county flag, the association also promotes the observance of a county day – October 19, the feast day of St Frideswide.

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Anger over HS2 scheme

By Samantha McGregor

A COMPENSATION scheme for households affected by the High Speed Rail scheme does not go far enough, campaigners say.

The Department for Transport had unveiled a compensation scheme for residents and businesses that would be affected by the London-to-Birmingham line, known as HS2.

The £33bn rail link would cut across north-east Oxfordshire, near Finmere and Mixbury, close to the Northamptonshire border.

As part of the proposed scheme, those living within 60 metres of the line would get market value for their property plus and an extra ten per cent in compensation – up to £47,000. This is extended to 120 metres in rural areas.

But Bernie Douglas, chairman of Villages of Oxfordshire Opposed to HS2,said: "It's a cynical public relations exercise.

"This is not what we were promised by the Government. We were promised no one would lose out because of HS2."

There were also a range of other compensation measures included in the consultation, which is open until January 31, 2013.

These include:

- A hardship scheme to help people who need to move during the development work but who cannot sell their homes
- A sale and rent-back scheme where householders stay in the property until it is needed for building work
- Measures for those with properties above tunnels
- A commitment to replace lost social housing.

The Government said the compensation measures went "significantly beyond statutory requirements".

Rail minister Simon Burns said: "No major infrastructure project on this scale can be built without some impact on local communities, but I am determined to do everything I can to minimise the effect of HS2 on those closest to the line. We have thought long and hard about this and the measures I have announced are fair, and strike the right balance for local communities and the British taxpayer."

Bernie Douglas

It is not known how many properties in Oxfordshire will be affected by the compensation scheme.

- Five separate legal challenges to the Government's £33bn HS2 project will be heard in the High Court from December 3.

Conservative-controlled Cherwell District Council is among 18 local authorities that form the 51m group to challenge the plans.

Four other challenges are being made by action groups and businesses.

Consultation results over move to NHS foundation status

Trust's go-it-alone bid gets public backing

By Oliver Evans

THE people of Oxfordshire have given an overwhelming thumbs up to long-awaited plans to give hospital managers more independence.

The results from a public consultation exercise supported Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust's bid to become a foundation trust.

The status would let residents become governors so they could have a say on how services are run at the trust, led by chief executive Sir Jonathan Michael.

The authority – which runs the county's general hospitals – can also retain surpluses and borrow cash more easily.

The public consultation, which ran from June 25 to October 12, found "clear support" for the plan.

About 300 people attended 16 public events and almost 300 staff attended meetings at the trust's hospitals.

Of those who filled in a questionnaire, 240 supported the trust's vision for what the status would mean, while just 14 opposed it.

The vision seeks to exploit links with the university to bring pioneering research to its patients. But it warns: "We need to be cost-effective and to make sure that the increasingly tight financial resources available to the NHS and the economy as a whole are used in the best possible way."

Foundation trusts – introduced in the early years of Labour Government – are regulated by health watchdog Monitor and require its approval to get the status.

During the consultation, backing also came from councils and other education and health providers across the county.

Yet the county's joint health overview and scrutiny committee watchdog said that while it backed the plan, it remained concerned about massive private finance initiative loan repayments.

Managers face a £53m annual bill to pay back private firms which built developments like the Oxford Cancer Centre.

The trust last year spent £717.8m against an income of £725.8m.

Committee chairman Dr Peter Skolar said: "I support the trust moving to foundation trust, providing it can satisfy Monitor with its financial status – especially in view of its PFI payments."And he said Banbury's Horton General Hospital – also run by the trust – must have its managers' "full support".

The trust board agreed to pursue the application, with minor changes to how it would be governed – including having five clinical and one non-clinical governors, instead of four and two as proposed.

Director of planning Andrew Stevens said there had been "overwhelming" support.

He said of the public events: "We found it an incredibly valuable exercise, not just in terms of the feedback on the foundation trust proposals, but generally in terms of wider feedback."

InBRIEF

Free parking plan approved

PARKING will be free three days a week over Christmas in council car parks in Banbury, it has been agreed. Cherwell District Council's executive agreed on Monday to scrap charges each Saturday to Monday, from December 1 to January 7. Deputy leader George Reynolds said: "We hope people make use of this opportunity and do their shopping within the district. There is a current trend for people to do much of their shopping online but there is no substitute for browsing around stores to get you into the Christmas spirit. This plan has been well received by traders, so I am sure it will provide the boost we're hoping for."

Leisure offer

PEOPLE aged 18 to 25 are being offered cheap leisure centre membership, thanks to Lottery cash. Cherwell District Council has made the offer at its Spiceball centre in Banbury. Visitors will pay £2 a visit for eight weeks. Those who complete at least six gym, swimming or fitness classes then get a month's free membership. Those who complete both stages can then get a 12-month membership for £34.50 a month, compared to the usual £39. Cash from the Lottery's £32m Sportivate programme has helped pay for the offer.

Flying doctors

THE Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance now has a doctor-led crew to deliver urgent medical care. The air ambulance — which serves the Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire region— had previously been staffed by experts from the South Central Ambulance Trust but not doctors.

Church reveals its crisis over finances

ADDERBURY residents are being urged to think about life without St Mary's Church, as its leaders warn of "unsustainable" financial losses.

The church has launched a 12-month campaign to raise £5,500 after ending 2011/12 with a £10,000 deficit.

It has warned essential running costs, like energy, are consistently outstripping its income.

An open letter to residents said: "Have you ever considered what our lovely village of Adderbury would be like without its centrepiece – St Mary's Church?"

It adds: "Sometimes the unthinkable and the unimaginable can happen. The things we take for granted today are suddenly not there tomorrow and we wonder how we let it get to this."

Oil, electricity and insurance costs had been made worse by a drop in regular giving by villagers, it warned, creating deficits for four years.

It said of the overspend: "This will very quickly become unsustainable."

The Rev Stephen Fletcher said the global financial market had also hit church investments.

He said: "It is a way of challenging people to think about how important the church is. We can't just let it carry on."

The finances are the worst they have been during his ten-year tenure, he said.

"Like every church in the area, we are consistently struggling to keep our costs down."

A presentation on the church's finances will be given as part of its morning service on Sunday, November 18.

Fairytale success for young author

WHAT if you discovered you were half-fairy?

That's the question posed by local author Kate Spencer, *pictured left,* in her newly-published first book.

Aimed at girls, aged six to nine, *The Jade Ring* is the first book in Kate's *Magic Jewellery Shop* series.

"Every girl who reads modern children's fiction can imagine what it would be like to meet a fairy or a magical animal," said Kate, "so I decided to take that idea a step further, and explore what happens to two ordinary children when they discover they are half-fairy themselves."

The resulting adventure combines magic, fairies and, of course, jewellery, in an exciting and motivational story with strong female lead characters and a theme of forgiveness. Kate's own illustrations bring the action beautifully to life.

The Kindle edition of *The Magic Jewellery Shop – The Jade Ring*, published in June, quickly reached number 22 in the bestseller list for its category. "There's a lot of competition, but I'm hoping for similar success with the paperback edition," says Kate. "There are at least two more *Magic Jewellery Shop* books in the pipeline."

Kate will be holding hourly book-reading sessions on Saturday at Urban Angelz, the popular craft, fashion and jewellery shop in Middleton Cheney.

"The sessions are free of charge and will run between 10am and 3pm" said Renee Booth, owner of Urban Angelz.

"There will also be fairy-themed craft activities available, priced at £2, and copies of *The Magic Jewellery Shop – The Jade Ring* will be available to buy."

● *The Magic Jewellery Shop – The Jade Ring* is also available to buy on Amazon, ISBN 978-0-9572839-1-6, priced at £3.99.

Roadshow with a serious message

YOUNG drivers will be shown the dangers of the road in hard-hitting presentations starting next week.

More than 15,000 teenagers from schools and colleges across the Thames Valley area will see the Safe Drive Stay Alive production over the next three weeks.

The event includes talks from victims of road accidents and advice from police, ambulance, and fire services.

Superintendent Chris Brown, head of roads policing for Hampshire and Thames Valley, said: "Safe Drive Stay Alive is about making young people aware of the many dangers they face and the impact of their actions behind the wheel on themselves, their friends, family, and also the emergency services that deal with them.

"Road death is the biggest killer of young people in the UK. Each week, more than two people die and around 180 are injured in collisions on the roads in Thames Valley."

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InBRIEF

'Charity' firms closed down

■ COMPANIES which claimed to be collecting clothes for charity but were selling them on have been closed down.

Helping Arms Ltd and Rogaile Ltd have been closed by the High Court following an investigation. The court heard the two companies operated jointly as "Helping Arms", supposedly collecting donations for Eastern European and African countries.

The venture made sales revenues of £645,000 in the 14 months until December 2011, produced sales of some £645,000 but no evidence was found showing any funds going to the alleged intended recipients.

The court also heard the companies had distributed leaflets in Oxfordshire.

Sale's tally

■ **STAFF at the Horton NHS Treatment Centre, Banbury, raised £835 for Macmillan Cancer Support with a raffle and cake sale. The effort was part of the charity's World's Biggest Coffee Morning day of fundraising on September 28.**

App success

■ CHILTERN Railways says 100,000 people have downloaded its free mobile ticketing app for mobile phones. The app allows travellers to buy tickets and scan a barcode on the phone at station barriers as well as check real-time journey information. To get the app text 'Chiltern' to 88600 or search online.

Oxfordshire Chief Fire Officer Dave Etheridge

Third county to join fire merger

A DEAL to merge fire services in the Thames Valley region is one step closer to reality after fire chiefs in Buckinghamshire agreed to join the scheme.

Oxfordshire and Berkshire have already agreed to form the "Thames Valley Fire Control Service", and now councillors from the two authorities will have to decide if they want to link up with Bucks too.

The original proposals included a potential collaboration with Buckinghamshire but in September 2011, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority chose to pursue an alternative option with Cambridgeshire and Suffolk.

But last week the authority approved the proposed link-up with Oxfordshire and Berkshire at an extraordinary meeting.

Oxfordshire's Chief Fire Officer Dave Etheridge said: "We have always worked closely with our neighbouring fire and rescue services and Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service's proposal to join us in a shared control service will support and enhance our mergers even further.

"Having Buckinghamshire on board will make us a truly Thames Valley Fire Control Service, which will link our three fire and rescue services in a seamless way and provide an optimum service to the public we serve."

The Fire Brigades' Union has expressed concerns about the impact the merger will have on working practices.

Oxfordshire branch secretary Steve Allen said: "If you have two or three brigades coming together, then local knowledge is going to be significantly watered-down."

■ Council announces new contract after Jeff's Coaches collapses

New coach operator to take over school routes

NEW operators have been appointed after a second coach company serving Oxfordshire schools collapsed.

By Emma Harrison

Oxfordshire County Council last week announced that it had contracted Cheney Travel to run five of the six routes previously run by Jeffs Coaches – the bus firm that went into administration last Thursday.

Cheney Travel will run two routes to Cropredy School, one route between Wardington, Hanwell Fields and St John's School in Banbury, and two routes between Bicester and Blessed George Napier School.

The company already operates school buses on other routes.

Students travelling on the single bus route between Cottisford, Mixbury and Magdalen School in Brackley will be picked up by a County Connect bus run by Northamptonshire County Council. Routes resumed on Monday after half term.

Cropredy Primary School governor Mark Simmons said: "It is good news and we are pleased that the county council has been able to move forward quickly and sort this out with the minimum of disruption to the children.

"A large number of families rely on the coach service, so it is good news it has been sorted out so quickly."

Oxfordshire County Council said the changes had saved £45,000, when compared to the contracts with Jeffs Coaches.

It said this was saved through a "process of competitive tendering from operators in the area".

Rodney Rose, the deputy leader of Oxfordshire County Council and its transport chief, said: "It was obviously important for us to act quickly to make sure that the 178 users of those six services are able to resume their travel to school in a seamless way."

Jeffs Coaches is owned by Birmingham-based Bowen Travel Group.

The collapse of Jeffs Coaches came just weeks after Witney firm RH Transport, which ran a range of services including school buses, folded.

RH Transport went into administration at the beginning of October, resulting in the loss of 70 jobs and costing County Hall more than £400,000 replacing services.

Stagecoach and other firms stepped in to run 13 public routes and 30 school services.

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer the following question and enter using one of the methods below.

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THE Banbury Cake is offering a fantastic prize of a two course meal for up to eight people from Rye Hill's fabulous festive lunch menu.

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The versatile clubhouse offers the ideal venue for weddings, parties, conferences or events and will soon be getting ready to host a fabulous range of Christmas Party nights.

A relaxed, friendly atmosphere together with a great breakfast and lunch menu (not to mention fabulous coffee and cakes) make it the ideal place to drop in or meet up with friends.

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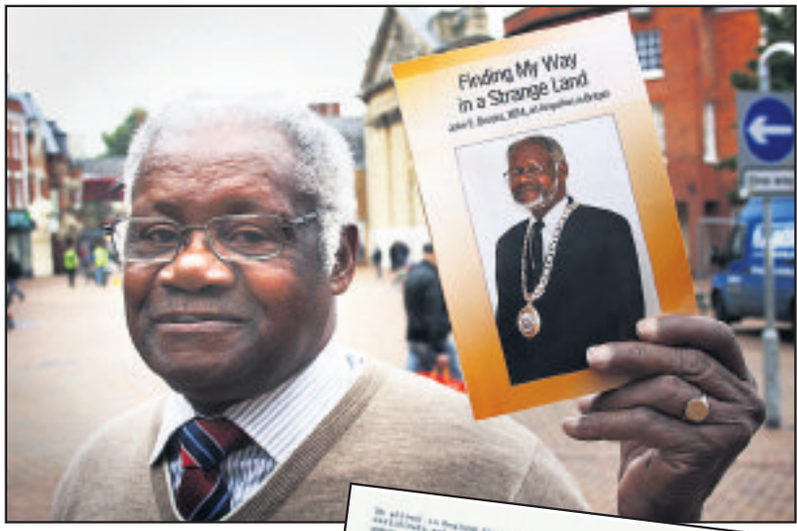
Former town mayor tells his life story

50 years on: a stranger no longer



MORE than 50 years after coming to the UK from Anguilla and living through some of most profound changes in its history, John Brooks has one thing to say of his adopted home: "Britain is a wonderful country."

The 77-year-old – who is to publish his life story – arrived in the UK from the Caribbean island clutching just a small scrap of paper that vouched for his skills as a carpenter and builder.

After a rewarding 26-year career in the British Army, more than two decades running a care home and a stint as a magistrate and the mayor of Banbury, he praises the opportunities the UK has offered.

He said: "Take it from me, as a stranger here for 55 years, Britain is a wonderful country.

"My father told me when I left Anguilla: 'Go to England and do whatever they do'. And that is what I did."

By Oliver Evans

He arrived in Slough in October 1955 from the British overseas territory and was called up for National Service three years later, leading to more than two decades in the forces.

He said: "People tell me there must have been racism in the Army – but let me tell you, the answer is no."

He recalls "comical" scenes of passengers refusing to sit next to him on the bus in the 1950s and 1960s.

But the father-of-three and grandfather-of-two said: "By the 1970s the whole thing had changed. People started getting accustomed to us. They realised we weren't cannibals and they could live with us."

In the 1970s Mr Brooks began endurance walking, beginning with a 75-mile trek over 18 hours for the NSPCC in 1974 and going on to raise more than £40,000 for good causes like Save the Children.

In 1976 he was awarded the British Empire Medal, months after leaving the service in 1984, moved to Banbury and bought Brooklands Nursing Home, which he ran until 2005.

Around this time he also joined Banbury Town Council as a Conservative councillor, a role that took him to mayoral heights in 2005.

From 1986 to 2005 he also served on the bench at the town's Magistrates' Court, a role that brought home Britain's drugs menace.

He said: "It all boils down to money. How can we educate these people? We have to start when they are young. We have to hammer home the message: 'drugs are no good'."

Looking back on his life and having relinquished his public posts, Mr Brooks reflects: "You never know unless you try. It is all about being part of society."

His book, *Finding My Way In A Strange Land,* is published this month and is available on Amazon or 01295 253825.

Clockwise from right: Mr Brooks in in the sergeants' mess; During basic training in 1958; As Banbury mayor in 2006; Mr Brooks today, with his new book; The only papers he had when he arrived in the UK in 1955

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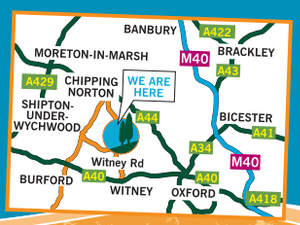

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SPOIL ME ROTTEN Upfront Witney lady, 37, 5'6'', blue-eyes, long-hair, size 10-12, part-time accountant, enjoys evenings out, cinema, walks, shopping, looking for a traditional gent, 35-70. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 131986 or send a text to 80360**

LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Thoughtful Oxford female, 41, 5', medium-build, fair-hair, blue-eyes, smoker, likes swimming, holidays, pubs and meals out, seeks a genuine male. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 122427 or send a text to 80360**

LOVE TO TALK Dark-eyed Wilts girl, 43, 5'2'', enjoys nights out, movies and more, searching for an independent gent, to cosy times and conversation. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 113059 or send a text to 80360**

SPARKS FLYING Fun, curvy, green-eyed Wiltshire brunette, 44, looking for genuine, loving guy, to share some caring times and future happiness. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 852093**

FOR HAPPINESS Upbeat Swindon female, 45, 5'4'', would like to meet a male, to go on dates, share company and hopefully form a relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127393 or send a text to 80360**

OF A GENUINE DESCRIPTION Laid-back Swindon female, 46, still looking for my Mr Right, to share and enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126129 or send a text to 80360**

IT COULD BE US Spiritual, genuine Didcot woman, 46, attractive, fun, have grown up children, likes clubs, cafes, music, films, walking and reading, seeking a caring and optimistic man, for friendship first. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 123828 or send a text to 80360**

OUR MOMENT Lovely, hard-working, petite woman, 48, likes socialising, city pubs, eating out, seeks similar guy, for fun, laughter & hopefully more. Oxford. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 102616 or send a text to 80360**

SMOOTH MOVE Slim, blue-eyed Trowbridge female, 48, 5'2'', GSOH, easy to get on with, enjoys nights out, walks and more, searching for an honest, active, interesting man. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109958 or send a text to 80360**

LOST FOR WORDS Swindon girl, 48, enjoys socialising, skiing, badminton and more, searching for a down to earth man. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 108304**

I'LL STAND BY YOU Petite Swindon female, 50, brown-hair, cuddly, loves cosy times in and going out, seeking a genuine man, to share good times times. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130105 or send a text to 80360**

START LIVING AGAIN Friendly, fun Oxfordshire divorced mum, 51, grown up children, looking for love again and someone to share life with. Is the right man out there for me? **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 798804**

SOMEONE EXACTLY LIKE YOU Caring, lovely, bubbly Bicester lady, 53, looking for a tall, kind, caring and romantic man for a lasting loving relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 118921 or send a text to 80360**

A DEEP CONNECTION Big, bubbly Swindon lady, 54, black, GSOH, caring, enjoys music, reading, going out & cinema, looking to meet a like-minded white guy, 40-50, kind, loyal and fun, for a true relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115425**

I'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT Sincere Swindon woman, 54, GSOH, fun personality, loves nights out, socialising and music, seeks a friendly bloke, to share lots of good times and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 104377 or send a text to 80360**

THAT SPECIAL PERSON Honest, bubbly female, 55, kind, loving, seeks 6ft+ male, for romance, companionship & lots more. Bicester. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110670**

SHALL WE DANCE? Blonde, blue-eyed Swindon girl, 55, friendly nature, well-travelled and loyal, lover of life, searching for an active, educated man, who appreciates, food, wine and life in general. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110895**

RECIPE FOR LOVE Kind hearted, sociable Oxford lady, 56, active, caring, GSOH, enjoys rock concerts, seaside, animals and driving, searching for a warm, loving and funny gent, for company, sharing and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130132 or send a text to 80360**

FRIENDS FIRST Intelligent, attractive Wiltshire female, 56, widow, brunette, 5'2'', likes radio 4, reading, travel, art galleries and gym, new to area and seeking a similar guy, GSOH, for company and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 124892 or send a text to 80360**

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MEANINGFUL TIMES Active, outgoing Trowbridge female, 57, loves cinema, seaside, travelling and animals, would like to meet a man for company leading to a possible relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117215**

GIVE ME A CALL SOMETIME Separated, caring Devizes female, 57, genuine, loving, GSOH, likes reading, cooking, meals and cosy nights in, seeking a tall man, for friendship, leading to more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132887 or send a text to 80360**

HEADLINE NEWS Sincere, reliable Wiltshire lady, 57, likes dogs, travelling and good conversations, seeking an honest, reliable male, for company. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 124692 or send a text to 80360**

DO YOU HAVE A KIND HEART? Oxford widow, 57, 5'3'', blue-eyes, works full-times, enjoys socialising, walking my dogs, theatre, eating out & family life, seeking a decent man, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 123053 or send a text to 80360**

JUST THE TWO OF US Separated, slim, smart, attractive Marlborough lady, mid-50s, young at heart, likes meals out, dogs, cosy times and more, seeking a friend and soul mate, to go ahead with me in life. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 463351 or send a text to 80360**

CLOSE TO HAPPINESS Cuddly, young looking 58yr old Salisbury woman, likes travel, reading crime thrillers, all kinds of music, looking for a rugged man to make me smile & share fun times together. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 119145**

LIVE THE LIFE YOU LOVE Cuddly Chipping Norton widow, 59, widowed with grown up family. Enjoys walking her 2 dogs and playing bowls for a local team. Seeks similar gent, for friendship and romance. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132223 or send a text to 80360**

THE LONG TERM Separated, easygoing Oxon female, 60, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100451**

SEEKING THE RIGHT MAN Separated, attractive Witney female, 60, 5'2'', curvy, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128289 or send a text to 80360**

LOVE IS FOR SHARING Easygoing, sincere Trowbridge lady, 60, med build, 5'6'', GSOH, N/S, enjoys good social life, darts, music, walking & reading, searching for that special guy, N/S and caring for dates & more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 116161**

GENUINE AND CARING Oxfordshire widow, 61, 5'6'', slender build, sociable, caring and well-travelled, searching for a genuine, professional guy, non-smoker, for friendship, maybe lasting love. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 466487**

OPEN YOUR HEART Slim, attractive Swindon widow, 61, 5'4'', enjoys walks, sports, travel, country pubs and socialising, seeking a similar male, to share interests together. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 125012 or send a text to 80360**

SOCIABLE SORT Tall, blonde Wiltshire girl, 62, enjoys cars, walks, gardening and more, searching for a sociable man, with an active lifestyle, for a loving and lasting relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 452750**

FRIENDSHIP, MAYBE MORE... Sociable, active Witney woman, 62, GSOH, widow, attractive, likes meeting people, theatre, drinks, meals out and walking, seeking a similar man, caring and genuine, for friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127066**

KNOW WHAT MATTERS Upbeat, cultured, sophisticated Banbury lady, 62, own house and car, likes swimming and wondering about the countryside, would like to meet an up-lifting man, to fill in the gaps. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 123403 or send a text to 80360**

CHATS OVER A PINT? Country woman looking to meet a loving, dark haired, slim man. I'm 63yrs old, 5'7'', slim and fit, love being outside, walking and gardening. Marlborough/Wiltshire **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 112241 or send a text to 80360**

THE BETTER THINGS IN LIFE Divorced Swindon female, 65, 5'5'', works part-time, likes walking, travelling and cooking, would like to meet a nice sociable gent, with a good lifestyle, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114628**

HONEST RELATIONSHIP Non-smoking Bradford lady, 65, 5'5'', slim-build, blue-eyes with a positive outlook, enjoy countryside, dancing, music, theatre, seeking a gent, 63-68, to enjoy similar interest. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128404 or send a text to 80360**

DOWN TO EARTH Happy-go-lucky Swindon female, young 71, loves walks, cooking, gardening, kisses, cuddles, looking for a N/S, clean-shaven man, for a loving relationship. Last caller pleave leave contact number. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 454288**

GREAT COMPANIONS Wiltshire widow, 73, likes music, theatre, travel and more, searching an easygoing gent, for companionship, friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 104917 or send a text to 80360**

NICE TO BE WITH Young-minded, retired Chippenham lady, 78, 5'7'', cuddly-build, likes crosswords, holidays, home life, seeking a nice gent, to share good company together. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128540 or send a text to 80360**

FRIENDSHIP & ROMANCE Genuine, active Oxford male, 28, slim build, 5'7'', caring, enjoys the gym, cycling and generally keeping fit, would like to meet a similar female, honest, GSOH and fun, for friendship and love. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 122941**

HOPING TO MEET YOU Kind, caring Henley guy, 30, easy to talk to and always up for a laugh, looking for some one special, who is honest, kind and chatty, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 124455**

WE COULD BE GOOD TOGETHER Down to earth Swindon male, 37, enjoys cycling, walks, travel and lots more, seeks laid back female, for good times and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100773**

READY TO MEET MY SOULMATE Outgoing, sociable Oxford male, 40, black, GSOH, caring, enjoys living life to the full and would like to share it with a bubbly, attractive and kind female, for a loving relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 127095 or send a text to 80360**

PERFECT HARMONY Fun-loving, easygoing, tactile Witney biker, 41, 6ft, stocky build, shaven head and goatee, seeks fun loving, cheeky lady to share life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 108035 or send a text to 80360**

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SOMEONE TO CLICK WITH Honest, genuine N/S guy, 43, 6'1'', medium build, no ties, lives in Swindon, likes theatre, bowling, meals out, seeks single female, for ltr. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 107035**

ENJOY GOOD COMPANY Honest male, 44, 6'3'', stocky build, gsoh, enjoys sports, travel, cosy times in, social drinks, seeks fun loving female, for happier times. Oxford. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101716 or send a text to 80360**

THE RIGHT STUFF Tender, affable and decent Witney man, 45, would like to find a warm, instinctive lady, for friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132870 or send a text to 80360**

FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT Outgoing black male, 45, smoker, no ties, own flat, likes pubs, eating out, cinema, clubs, holidays, searching for a like-minded woman, 35-45, for true love. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 123703**

COME CLOSER Active, kind-hearted and upbeat Oxford bloke, 46, looking to find an insightful, liberal woman, for fun and maybe a little romance. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130080 or send a text to 80360**

WE CAN BE HAPPY Fun male, 44, likes meals out, keeping fit, weekends away, 5ft9in, seeking friendship maybe more with someone special. Banbury. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 854670**

LIFE IS MADE FOR TWO Happy, active Abingdon man, 46, GSOH, med build, positive, enjoys walking, swimming and cinema, would like to meet a similar lady, 50-65, fit and positive, for friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114348 or send a text to 80360**

OFFER ME YOUR LOVE Happy go lucky Windsor male, 47, enjoys cooking, walks, tennis, swimming and theatre, looking for a long term relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126273 or send a text to 80360**

CHANGE OF LUCK? Warm, blue-eyed Banbury male, 47, 6ft, kind and truthful, intelligent and thoughtful, searching for an understanding woman, to share and enjoy a quiet and happy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 125562 or send a text to 80360**

NEED SOMEONE SPECIAL Happy-go-lucky Banbury male, 48, works part-time, would like to meet a woman, who like walks, social drinks and dining out. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 131071 or send a text to 80360**

IT'S NOT UNUSUAL Friendly Witney male, 48, 6', blue eyes, enjoys sports, music, cosy nights in, going out and having a laugh, would like to meet a female friend, for good company and laughter. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115039 or send a text to 80360**

HAPPY TIMES AHEAD Caring, genuine Banbury guy, 48, GSOH, solvent, romantic, enjoys going out for a meal/drink, country walks and animals, searching for a nice lady, funny and kind, for friendship and maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126861 or send a text to 80360**

LOVE TO HAVE A LAUGH Friendly, warm hearted Abingdon male, 50, good sense of humour, would like to meet a caring matured guy, to enjoy good times together, for a long term relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115894**

LOVE TO HAVE A LAUGH Hardworking Oxford male, 50, 5'7'', brown hair, own flat, likes socialising, cooking, nights in, seeks nice young lady for friendship leading to more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 121027 or send a text to 80360**

TIME FOR A CHANGE Friendly, expressive and vibrant Kidlington male, 51, would like to meet a life-loving, interesting lady, to share the future together. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114479 or send a text to 80360**

ETERNAL COMPANIONSHIP Outgoing, divorced Witney male, 52, pubs, meals, nice walks, family life, seeking an interesting woman, to get to know better. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126741 or send a text to 80360**

ALL TO LOVE Kind and caring Oxfordshire male, 52, brown hair, green eyes, GSOH, searching for a nice, genuine girl, for friendship first, then maybe more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 461278**

SIMILAR IDEAS Down-to-earth Kidlington male, 52, enjoys swimming, walks, cinema and dining, searching for a loving female, for a steady relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 125598 or send a text to 80360**

NOT TO BE MISSED Spontaneous, caring, hard-working Oxford guy, 54, likes music, cooking, live bands, good wine and F1, would like to meet a simple woman, to share life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115773 or send a text to 80360**

TAKE CHARGE Bright, humorous and optimistic Banbury man, 55, would like a date with a chatty, active woman, for good times and great company. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 132836 or send a text to 80360**

CONFIDENTLY YOURS Widowed chap, 60, 5'10'', own home/business, Witney based, enjoys music, country walks, pubs, fishing, gardening, seeks outgoing female, to enjoy life again. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 107964**

LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Fairly fit Banbury man, 60, 5'11'', fair-hair, blue-eyes, works as electrician, looking for a nice lady around the same age, for friendship possibly leading to more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 122384**

THE BEST IS YET TO BE Caring, romantic Bicester male, 60, works full-times, loves weekend away, car boot sales and walking, looking for a lady 48-55 to share life and love with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 118655**

POSITIVE ATTITUDE Fit Latino male, 61, looking for someone who can share fun, life in general and hopefully love with. Oxford. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 460522**

SO GOOD TOGETHER Genuine, easygoing, happy Abingdon male, 61, own home/car, enjoys dancing, days out and walking the dog, searching for a genuine lady, with an attractive and happy nature. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 466085**

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A FUTURE FILLED WITH LAUGHTER Divorced, young at heart male, 55, own house in Oxford, likes cinema, theatre and clubs, seeks caring female for happy times and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 107632**

LET'S FIND EACH OTHER Recently separated Bicester chap, 55, 6'1'', many interests, seeking a woman for a long term relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 121412**

THE HONEST KIND Easygoing male, 57, from Oxford, likes cinema, sports, nights in, seeks female for friendship leading to more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110649**

CARING NATURE Articulate, vigorous and astute Witney man, 58, looking for a funny, innovative woman, for friendship and romance. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 111595**

SHARING GOOD TIMES Upbeat Burford widower, 58, own cars, works full time, likes days in and out, countryside walks, driving, looking for a similar woman for companionship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117916 or send a text to 80360**

CONNECT WITH ME Sincere Oxford male, 59, slim-build, 5'8'', likes cinema, swimming, country walks with my dogs, seeking an honest, caring lady, to spend quality times with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128560 or send a text to 80360**

PASSION FLOWER Young-looking, Wallingford 59yr old, 5'9'', dark hair, wears glasses, enjoys cinema, bowling, days out and socialising, seeks loving, loyal female, for lasting relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101122**

ROOM WITH A VIEW Easygoing Oxford male, 62, likes wining and dining, theatre, holidays, pubs, clubs, seeking a genuine female, for good times and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126505 or send a text to 80360**

READY TO MOVE ON Young, caring Didcot guy, 63, 5'9'', enjoys the sea, reading and boating, would like to meet a similar lady for companionship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117043 or send a text to 80360**

MAKE A FRIEND Warm, romantic Bicester male, 65, searching for an interesting, active woman, for days out, friendship, meals and good company. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 851123**

KINDRED SPIRITS Presentable, educated chap, 66, enjoys the arts, history, places of interest, exploring towns/countryside on foot, wltm attractive, vivacious lady, for romance. Oxford. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101058**

LOVING LIFE Loyal, solvent North Oxfordshire gent, 66, 5'9'', loves soul and motown, coffee and theatre, searching for an attractive, interesting lady, 50-65, to share and explore interesting times. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 104998**

HAPPY TIMES AHEAD Free-spirited Kidlington guy, likes old classic motor cycles and cars, seeking a nice lady, for friendship, leading to more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 129150 or send a text to 80360**

JUST AN ORDINARY GUY Friendly, faithful Didcot male, 67, 5'9'', likes rugby, football, DIY, gardening and much more, searching for a loving woman, to make life complete. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 456285**

SOUL TO SOUL Divorced, active male, 77, looks younger, 5'5'', N S, i enjoys pubs meals, car boot sales, crosswords and cosy times, wltm charming lady, to share quality times. Oxford area prefered. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100937**

ARE YOU THE ONE Easygoing Christian female, 41, 5'6'' brunette living in Devizes, thoughtful, caring, affectionate & young at heart, wltm like minded lady, for friendship/committed relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 107470**

HOPE THIS WORKS Cuddly Swindon lady, 47, easygoing and fun to be with, looking for friendship leading to more with a nice, friendly, bubbly woman. Where are you? **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 851817 or send a text to 80360**

BEST FRIENDS FOREVER Swindon lady, 48, looking for straight female friends. Into things like cycling, pilates, yoga, dancing, meals, drinks out, theatre, shopping trips, girly chats the usual sorts of things. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128139**

PUTTING THE SPARK BACK Easygoing, stocky built Oxford guy, 49, blue eyes, likes pubs, cinema, the arts, looking for a similar man 35-60, for companionship and hopefully we'll see where it leads to. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115976 or send a text to 80360**

HONEST RELATIONSHIP Sociable Oxford male, 52, likes country walks, bowling, cinema, playing darts, snooker, cosy times in, seeking a warm-hearted man, to enjoy life with. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126260 or send a text to 80360**

MAKE A CONNECTION Interesting, friendly Oxford male, 63, varied interests, loves walks, reading, travel and more, seeks sensitive male, similar age, for a loving relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 857624**

THAT'S ALL FOR NOW... Easygoing, friendly Didcot male, 65, enjoys walks, theatre, cosy times in, socialising, seeks a friendly, active chap, for company and more. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 131800 or send a text to 80360**

BRING THE SPARKLE BACK Clean-shaven Thame male, 67, 6', medium-build, own bungalow, would like to meet a sociable man, who wishes to enjoy good times together. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 119935**

LET'S EXPLORE Abingdon male, 68, 5'9'', medium build, easygoing and affectionate, looking for someone similar, to share fun and good times. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 453567 or send a text to 80360**

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Immunisation scheme to link with pregnancy scans

New flu jabs offer for future mums

By Jamie Brooks

PREGNANT women in Oxfordshire are being urged to protect themselves and their babies by getting flu jabs while they wait for their scans.

NHS Oxfordshire hopes that take-up in the county will be improved by offering a free vaccination without a need for a separate appointment at a GP surgery.

Following the swine flu outbreak of 2009, pregnant women were added to the high-risk category of those needing free flu jabs on the NHS, as they are more susceptible to the symptoms.

The jab protects mother and baby against flu, and the protection lasts into the first few months of a baby's life.

The initiative offers jabs when women are waiting for their ultrasound scans at the Horton Hospital, Banbury, or Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital.

It comes after a pilot scheme at the John Radcliffe Hospital last year. Immunisation manager Rosemary de Wilde said: "We wanted to make it really easy for pregnant women to access a flu jab. Last year's scheme showed women appreciated the convenience of getting the jab as they waited for another appointment.

"The aim was to compliment what the GPs offer."

Previously nurses gave the jabs, but under the new scheme they would be administered by midwives.

In 2011/12, some 34 per cent of pregnant women in Oxfordshire were immunised. This year the aim is to reach 70 per cent.

During the seven weeks the scheme ran last year, 266 women were immunised against flu. This year the initiative aims to reach 1,000 mums-to-be. Dr Tony Berendt, deputy medical director for the Oxford University Hospitals Trust, said: "We have set up this service across the JR and Horton sites because it's so important that pregnant women get the flu jab.

"Flu in pregnancy is serious – for the mum-to-be, whose immunity is reduced by pregnancy, for the pregnancy, with more chance of losing the baby; and for the newborn baby, which can be affected if the pregnant woman becomes seriously ill.

"The flu jab protects her and her baby. It only takes a couple of minutes, and it's safe and simple."

All pregnant women are offered two scan appointments, a dating scan at 11-12 weeks and an anomaly scan at around 20 weeks.

For more information go to nhs.uk/conditions/Flu-jab

A mother-to-be gets an anti-flu jab while waiting for her scan

InBRIEF

MPs' hacking anecdotes

■ LABOUR MP Tom Watson – who played a key role in uncovering the phone hacking scandal – is to speak at an event in Adderbury tonight. The West Bromwich East MP will speak at the Banbury Labour Party's Supper Club at The Institute in Oxford Road.

As a member of Parliament's Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee, the MP played a key role in questioning the Murdoch family and other witnesses over the *News of the World* hacking scandal.

Entry is £10 and is open to all. Booking is required. Call Mary Evans Young on 01295 268676 or email mlevansyoung@aol.com

Cameron calls for 'swift' review

PRIME Minister David Cameron has backed a review of concerns that led to the suspension of births at a maternity unit.

Births at the Cotswold Maternity Unit, in Chipping Norton, were stopped on October 18 after "concerns about working practices raised by staff and women using the unit".

Mr Cameron, who represents Chipping Norton as part of his Witney constituency, said he had been finding out more about the situation.

He said: "I understand that the midwifery-led unit at Chipping Norton Hospital has been temporarily closed pending a review into concerns.

"Following this announcement, I have met with staff and been in touch with the trust and local mothers.

"What is important now is that a comprehensive review takes place as swiftly as is possible and that the unit is reopened fully following any necessary steps which need to take place."

The Oxford University Hospitals Trust said the concerns raised had not been about patient safety, and that the review would look into working practices.

A petition claims two midwives were suspended from the unit after they raised concerns about working practices and safety. The petition calls for them to be reinstated but the trust will not confirm the claims.

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BOOK YOUR FESTIVE PARTY THIS YEAR AT THE WHITE HORSE AT BANBURY CROSS

Well we've rolled into November with a pop, whizz and a bang and with less than two months before we roll into 2013, it's time to start planning your festivities!

We at the White Horse at Banbury Cross can take the stress out of organising your office party, work meal or family get together with a wide range of packages to suit all tastes, budgets and requirements.

Our Festive Fayre Menu is very flexible with a choice of one, two or three courses priced at £7.90, £11.90 and £13.90 respectively and whether there is only two or thirty of you, it's not a bad price!

Starter choices include: Leek & Potato Soup, Breaded Brie Wedges, Prawn Cocktail and Plum & Brandy Pate.

Main Course Choices including all the festive trimmings include: Roast Turkey, Roast Beef, Salmon Wellington and Wild Mushroom.

Desserts include: The word I've managed to avoid so far Pudding, Chocolate Sponge, Vanilla Cheesecake and Cheese & Biscuits.

For parties of 4 or more we will chuck in a glass of Prosecco with each meal, booking is essential and can be done by e-mailing whitehorsebanbury@hotmail.co.uk or telephoning 01295-277484, a £5.00 deposit per person is required to book and the remaining balance must be paid at least 10 days before you join us.

We are offering a 5% discount on all confirmed bookings if a deposit is made by November 17th but as a Banbury Cake reader we will double this discount to 10% using the coupon below!

Of course if it's just a hot or cold buffet you're after feel free to pop in, e-mail or telephone us for what we can offer.

And there we go, I've managed to write this without mentioning the word Christmas . . . oh wait . . . sorry!

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Hardeep is all ready to stand and deliver

ONE of *Celebrity Masterchef*'s most successful contenders takes on Banbury's Indian takeaways in an unmissable challenge.

Cook, broadcaster and entertainer Hardeep Singh Kohli will set up his kitchen on stage at The Mill Theatre this Saturday.

Hardeep, runner-up in *Celebrity Masterchef*'s first series, will take advice from the audience before he places an order for their favourite meal at the town takeaway of their choice. His aim is to cook a better, more mouth-watering curry in front of them – before the takeaway is delivered to The Mill.

Thoughout the process, he will entertain onlookers with amusing and extraordinary anecdotes from his life and career, not to mention some invaluable cooking tips.

"This is one of the most extraordinary – and most entertaining – shows we have staged here at The Mill," said the theatre's programme manager Deborah Clarke.

"If any of the takeaway restaurants in Banbury want to recommend themselves, or if those coming to the show want to suggest one, they can go on to Hardeep's website, or email or Facebook to make their pitch.

"Restaurants have been asked to supply menus to be given out to audience as they arrive. Hardeep then orders the curry of their choice during the show and will race against the delivery– time-clock to cook up his own, while telling jokes and offering culinary advice. How will the curries compare? The audience will decide in a taste test.

Saturday's *Indian Takeaway* follows the huge success of his *The Nearly Naked Chef* and *Chat Masala* tours. Hardeep is a frequent guest on BBC1's *Question Time*, *This Week with Andrew Neil* and he was a former *Newsnight Review* presenter. He is also a regular face on BBC1's *The One Show* as well as *The Wright Stuff*.

Reviewers have said of his shows: "Kohli's evening of cookery and anecdotes… left a reassuringly warm aftertaste. The audience loved him." His first book *Indian Takeaway* was nominated for an Independent Book Award and he has written about food for *Olive*, *Observer Food Monthly*, *The Spectator*, *The Sunday Times* and is a columnist for *Waitrose Food Illustrated*. Having started his broadcasting career on TV he still holds radio dear, presenting across Radio 4 and Radio 5 Live and making a plethora of documentaries.

■ **Hardeep Singh Kohli's *Indian Takeaway* is this Saturday (November 10) at 7.30pm. Tickets £15/£13. Call 01295 279002.**

■ **Visit *hardeeplive.com***

Kinks stars reunite at Mill

All former members of the iconic '60s band responsible for such unforgettable hits as *Sunny Afternoon*, *Waterloo Sunset* and *Lola*, appear at Banbury's Mill Theatre tomorrow.

THE Kast Off Kinks, are made up of four ex-members of The Kinks get together again to relive the good times and give Banbury a taste of the '60s magic of one of the most successful and influential groups the UK has produced.

Their first hit, *You Really Got Me* in 1964, with Dave Davies' driving guitar strokes, broke new ground and created a template for future bands in a rock and roll development that led to heavy metal, new wave and grunge.

Later songs saw The Kinks' style change to melodic hits, with Ray Davies' songwriting skills. During the band's 32-year career there were many changes in personnel and some of those highly accomplished musicians are part of tomorrow's line-up. They are the founder-drummer Mick Avory, Jim Rodford on bass and vocals, Ian Gibbons on keyboard and Dave Clarke on lead guitar and lead vocals. Almost every other ex-Kink has guested with the Kast Off Kinks, including Ray Davies.

■ **The Kast-Off Kinks, tomorrow at 8.30pm. £12. Call 01295 279002**

■ **Visit *kastoffkinks.co.uk***

Notorious 'killer' sparks edgy drama

If you've ever heard of Jack Ruby or read sbout those momentous days in late 1963, chances are the version of events you know goes something like this:

A mysterious young man, Lee Harvey Oswald, is involved in a plot – either as unwitting patsy or willing protagonist – that results in the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. Conspirators in the plot then decide that Oswald has to be silenced, so The Mafia, uncharacteristically eager to expose their involvement, turn to one of their own to murder him: Jacob Rubenstein, also known as Jack Ruby, a Chicago hitman posing for the past 17 years as an unsuccessful Dallas club owner.

But is that story true? Ruby gunned down Lee Harvey Oswald live on national television. He could hardly deny it. In effect, he took Oswald's place as the keeper of the secret. Did Jack Ruby ever talk? In fact, what actually happened to Jack Ruby?

'You All Know Me – I'm Jack Ruby' at The Mill this evening is his story. The show is written and performed by Clifford Barry, an actor with 25 years' experience in theatre, TV and film. Director Clive Holland has acted, written and directed for the stage, in the UK and abroad, for 30 years.

■ Suitable for 15 years and over. Tickets £10/£6.

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Bulls fade after early promise

BANBURY Bulls slipped to the bottom of Midlands 2 West South after a 24-11 home defeat to Kidderminster Carolians.

Bulls controlled the early exchanges and deservedly took the lead with a penalty from fullback Andrew Joubert.

Kidderminster fly-half Andy McLellan cut through to score under the posts, scrum-half Chris Pinner converting for 7-3.

Joubert missed a penalty and Kidderminster had prop Ben Turner yellow carded.

But right on half time, Banbury fly-half Jed Boyle won the race to a hack downfield and scored their only try.

Joubert's second penalty made it 11-7 and Pinner was sin-binned for the visitors.

Kidderminster won it with three tries in 20 minutes.

No.8 Layton Wilkinson scored twice, Pinner converting the latter and adding try No 4.

Team left in a spin

A Swansea player bites the parquet during the roller derby between Wheels of Gory and Reaper Roller Girls at Upper Heyford on Sunday *OX55232*

A NEW Oxford ladies' skating team were left spinning after losing their first-ever match.

Roller Derby – a full contact sport – sees women on skates scoring points by breaking through the opposite team.

But new team Oxford Wheels of Gory said they were "proud" after their first game on Sunday.

Their debut match was held at the sports hall in Heyford park, Upper Heyford, on Sunday.

But the team were beaten by The Reaper Roller Girls from Swansea by 49 points to 257.

Liz Ellis, 35, from Bicester, said: "It's been likened to rugby on roller skates. It is a full contact sport but we do wear heavy amounts of padding.

By Ben Wilkinson

"It's a really accessible sport actually. Essentially, it's just really good fun. The competitive side is an added bonus."

Ms Ellis, whose game name is Scanda Liza, said the team had done well as they were so new to the sport.

She added: "Only one of our skaters has been skating for more than six months.

"We are really proud of how we did. We had an absolutely amazing time.

"We will go on to do bigger and better things."

Oxford Wheels of Gory train on Sundays from 5pm to 7pm, and on Wednesdays, from 8pm to 10pm.

For more details, click on: oxfordwheelsofgory.co.uk

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ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19

Jealousy on Sunday could lead you to say things you regret. Caution please Aries. You may want to slow down a work matter that relates to finances, there is still much you have to learn before you sign away your money or your name. Don't judge a new face in your friend's life too rashly, time will reveal all you need to know, so cool it for now. Call my starline for news on your love life now.

0906 585 4360

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

New friends make for a happier Taurus. However, you seem to have the typical midweek madness back in your life with a vengeance and even the simplest of jobs, such as doing the shopping, picking up the kids or getting to work on time will be thrown into disarray. If you don't laugh you'll cry so try to keep a mirthful spirit. Give me a ring now to make sense of issues both personal and professional.

0906 585 4361

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

Work responsibilities are proving too much for you and you may want to think about delegating as your stars show that others are willing to share your load. You have been busy doing nothing and it's time to get stuck in or you will miss out on the excellent opportunities that your chart is presenting to you. Call my starline now for the low-down on love and romance in full.

0906 585 4362

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

With the confidence you are exuding you can achieve the impossible. All you have to do now is to decide where your priorities lie and, more importantly, with whom as your chance to excel makes this a week you will not forget in a hurry. A new face in your career is set to become a very important part of your future. Call now to find out the real story behind those rumours currently circulating.

0906 585 4363

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

You spent so long last month trying to get focus on your life and now that you actually want privacy you can't seem to get a moment alone. There is plenty of time for you to enjoy the romance that is on offer, but you may want to get your work done first, which is looking more and more interesting by the hour. Phone now to hear whose bossiness is becoming a problem and how best to handle it.

0906 585 4364

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Use Wednesday to sort out those issues from last week. Don't let a setback in work this week put you off of your intended goal. There is much you can do to enhance your reputation by showing how well you can manage in a crisis. Don't borrow what you know you can't pay back, no matter how much it may impress a certain person. Call me now for news on upcoming family issues.

0906 585 4365

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Strange circumstances could see you having to give up some of your private space this week, but just try to make the best of an awkward situation. Family proves trying but things you do for them this week will not be forgotten. In fact they could be the key to you getting back on an even keel. Call my starline now to find out about a new and very exciting admirer.

0906 585 4366

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Why don't you sit down and work out the issues that are responsible for this change of pace your life has recently adopted? Your stars indicate that a solution is far easier to find than you think. Happy times for many of you Scorpios link to Pisceans who seem to know just what to say to impress you. Call now to find out which new face is set to have a dramatic effect on your heart.

0906 585 4367

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Jupiter, your ruling planet, is helping you to realise some pretty major dreams that you have. There are a lot of rumours going around at the moment so try to act on fact and not fiction and you can avoid any unnecessary problems. Make sure you back up your work on this day too if you use a computer, mistakes are likely. Phone now to take back control of your future.

0906 585 4368

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

Don't let down friends this week, no matter how attractive a certain face may seem, they are relying on you far more than you think and when you see the company they are keeping you'll be glad you made the effort. Older family members prove trying as they try to tell you how to live your life. Stand your ground my friend. Call my starline now for news on lucky breaks in business.

0906 585 4369

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Familiar faces may not give you the support they had once pledged so be prepared to make alternate arrangements. This is one week where you must take full responsibility for work and personal issues. But you know the saying, if a job is worth doing then it is worth doing well, so make your recent effort count. Overseas links promise an exciting future. Call now for news in full.

0906 585 4370

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20

Work is proving harder to get through of late but making that 'personal' call to find out where you stand can give you clarity. Don't make more of a mix up in work than is necessary, you could end up stepping on some very important toes if you do. Jupiter allows you to complete things in double quick time, so take full advantage. Call me now to find out what secrets may soon come to light.

0906 585 4371

Action thriller with a nail-biting finale

ARGO (15, 120 mins)
Thriller/Action. Ben Affleck, Alan Arkin, John Goodman, Tate Donovan, Scoot McNairy, Kerry Bishe, Christopher Denham, Clea DuVall, Rory Cochrane, Victor Garber. Director: Ben Affleck.

Scoot McNairy, as Joe Stafford; Ben Affleck, as Tony Mendez; Rory Cochrane, as Lee Schatz; Christopher Denham, as Mark Lijek, and Tate Donovan, as Bob Anders, in a scene from *Argo*

Fiction couldn't be any stranger than the truth in *Argo*, based on real-life events following the 1979 storming of the US Embassy in Tehran.

Ben Affleck is a deserved front runner for the Best Director statuette at next year's Academy Awards for his work on this gripping thriller that keeps us teetering on the edge of our seats for the entire two hours.

The handsome, California-born leading man has been a solid presence on screen for more than 30 years but it's more recently, behind the camera, that he has truly excelled.

His script for *Good Will Hunting*, co-written with Matt Damon, won the Oscar and critics have lavished superlatives on his directorial efforts *Gone Baby Gone* and *The Town*.

Argo restores Affleck to thriller territory, working from a lean script by Chris Terrio, based on an article written by Joshuah Bearman.

On November 4, 1979, simmering tensions outside the US embassy finally boil over.

Militants break through the barricades and storm the building.

"Don't shoot anybody!" orders one guard, "You don't want to be the person who started a war!"

Iranians capture 52 Americans and hold them hostage but six members of staff – Bob Anders (Tate Donovan), Joe Stafford (Scoot McNairy), Kathy Stafford (Kerry Bishe), Mark Lijek (Christopher Denham), Cora Lijek (Clea DuVall) and Lee Schatz (Rory Cochrane) – manage to escape to the nearby residence of the Canadian ambassador (Victor Garber). They hide in a basement crawl space while awaiting news from the outside world.

Back on American soil, CIA extractor Tony Mendez (Affleck) concocts an elaborate scheme to rescue the escapees: he will pose as a film producer who has come to Iran to scout for locations for a sci-fi epic called *Argo*.

The six stranded embassy staff will adopt the guise of his crew and they will leave the country together under false passports. Bona fide Hollywood producer Lester Siegel (Alan Arkin) and make-up artist John Chambers (John Goodman) throw their weight behind *Argo* to give the plan credibility.

When Tony arrives on Iranian soil, he soon realises all of his smooth talking and experience might not be enough to save the embassy staff from an Iranian firing squad.

Argo holds our attention hostage in a vice-like grip and refuses to let go.

Taut pacing, slick editing and escalating tension are underpinned by emotionally wrought performances from a sensational ensemble cast.

Arkin and Goodman provide the comic relief as the Hollywood veterans who realise they must spend serious money to create the illusion of a blockbuster in the making.

"If I'm doing a fake movie, it's gonna be a fake hit!" growls Lester.

The nail-biting climax succumbs to dramatic licence but by that point we forgive Affleck everything.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH ODEON INTERMISSION

Win tickets

JUST so you feel like you really are at the movies, the *Banbury Cake* and Odeon Cinema Banbury have teamed up to offer you the chance to catch up on the latest action blockbusters, sci-fi epics and family favourites.

Yes, every week in the *Banbury Cake* we'll be offering free tickets to go and see some of the silver screen's must-see movies.

And this week, we're offering a pair of tickets to see *Argo*, or any other film, showing at the Odeon cinema in Horse Fair.

To stand a chance of winning, correctly answer the following question:

- **Ben Affleck wrote *Good Will Hunting*. Who was his co-writer?**
  a. Alan Arkin?
  b. John Goodman?
  c. Matt Damon?

Email your answer to jeremy.smith@nqo.com by noon, next Monday.

You must include a daytime telephone number as you will be contacted by phone. Normal Newsquest rules apply. The editor's decision is final.

CakeWhat's on

Music

FRIDAY: The Musketeer Pub, Ruscote Avenue, Banbury: Stand in Stones. Local tribute band to the Rolling Stones. 9.15pm. Free admission. *01295 265081*.

Theatre

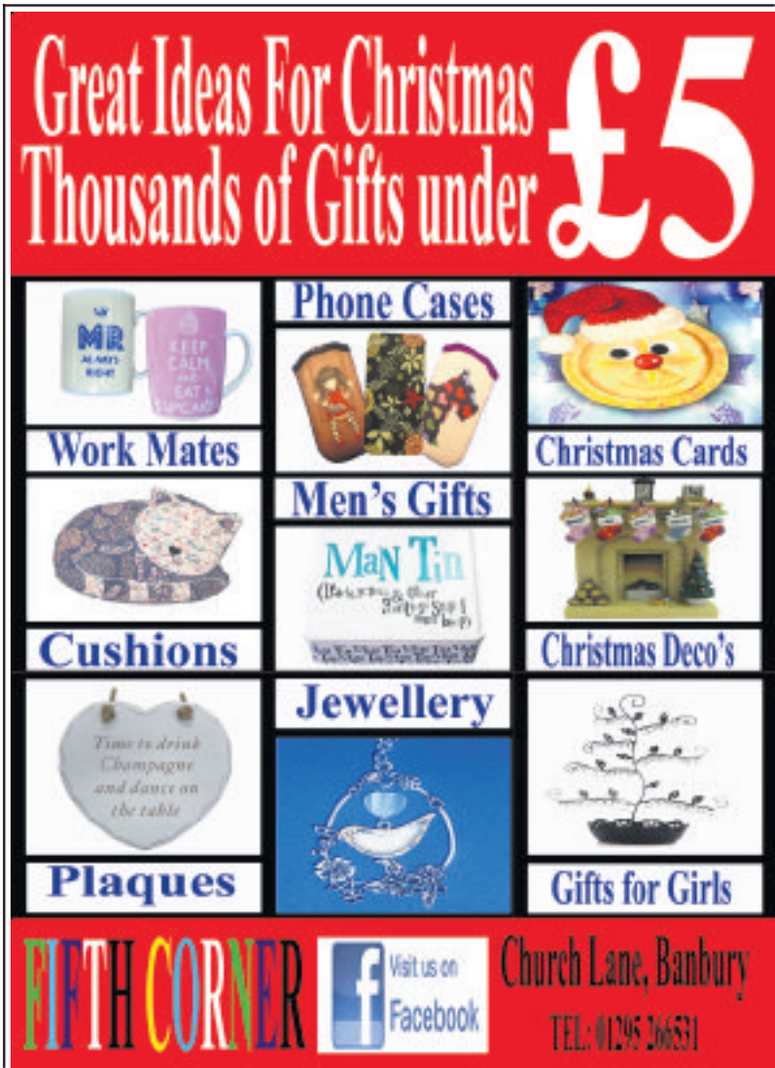
The Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury:
Nov 8, *You All Know Me – I'm Jack Rub*. Lee Harvey Oswald is involved in a plot... Performed by Clifford Barry. 8pm. £10, concession £6.
Nov 10, *There Was An Old Woman Who Swallowed A Fly*. Nursery rhyme brought to life. 2pm. £7, family £23.
Nov 10, Hardeep Singh Kohli, Indian Takeaway. 7.30pm. £15, concession £13.
Nov 14, Kevin Tomlinson and Abi Hood, *On The Edge*. 7.30pm. £12, £10.
Box office: 01295 279002.

Events

THURSDAY: Fireworks: Middle Barton School, Church Lane, Middle Barton. £5, child £3, family £15 (2+2 under-16s). Gates 6.30 for 7pm start. Proceeds to minibus appeal. *01869 232328*.
FRIDAY: Snap, Crackle and Pop: The Library, Middleton Cheney. A night at the cinema with *Salmon Fishing In The Yemen* (certificate 12A) £6. 7.30pm. Tickets from the library. *01295 712949*.
SATURDAY: Bazaar: Frank Wise School, Hornbeam Close, Banbury. 1-4pm. Admission £1, child free. Tea and cake available. *01295 264627*.

Cinema

Odeon, Horsefair, Banbury: Madagascar, PG, daily 2, 6.30pm; (3-D) Sat-Sun 11.45am, daily 4.15pm. Skyfall, 12A, daily 1.45, 5, 8.15, 8.45pm. Senior Screen: To Rome With Love, 12A, Wed 11am*. Odeon Kids: The Three Stooges, PG, Sat 11am*. Autism-friendly screening: Madagascar, PG, Sun 11.30am*. The Twilight Saga - Breaking Dawn Part II, midnight Thu/Fri.
Box office: 0871 224 4007.



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to place your family announcement

Acknowledgements

BRAGGINS
Valerie

Lorrie, Neil and Clare would like to thank all family and friends for there kind support and generous donations to cancer Research UK. With special thanks to Ian and J & M Humphris for their excellent support.

For a service which offers care and understanding in your time of need...

Call our Family Announcements Team on 01865 420420

Special Thanks

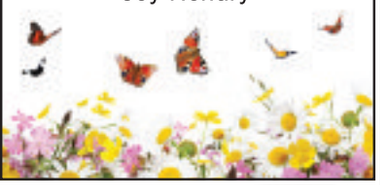
SPECIAL THANKS

A very special thanks to all who donated and supported the sale on October 27th in Causeway Communal Room.

To my helpers,
Theresa Lockwood, Sue Brain, Barry Coles, Yvonne Jeffs, Sandra Hibberd, Karen Reading, Jason and Jayne Sheppard.

£400.72p was raised for Katharine House Hospice.

Joy Hendry



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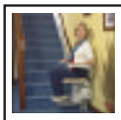

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Desire Quiksilver. Silver, 2003, 5 speed manual, petrol, sunroof, CD and radio, c/locking, with 5 months tax and 6 months MOT, good condition, 74,953 miles

07769 118773

£1,000

Daewoo

DAEWOO MATIZ SE 800CC

T reg, good condition, 1 years MOT

01793 346665 or 07835 066205

£750 ono

Fiat

FIAT GRANDE PUNTO

2009, 5 speed manual, petrol, 1 owner, 12 months MOT, 6 months tax, FSH, C/RL, CD/iPod blue and Me adapter, 39,250 miles

01249 446310

£4,250

FORD

FORD FIESTA

silver, radio,, PAS , MOT 02/13 , tax just ran out, clean condition inside and out for year, lots of service history for year , Bicester, 113000 miles

07889058678

£595

FORD FOCUS 1796CC ZETEC

Ideal first car, new clutch, new cambelt, 6 months tax, 12 months MOT, nearly new battery, good condition, good tyres, any trial welcome

07910 261726 or 01793 633529

£1000 ovno

FORD FOCUS ZETEC

X reg, 1800cc, blue, 158k, no mot or tax will need 2 new tyres, drives very well, nice clean car

01993 773477 or 07922 535411

£345 ono

FORD KA

1300cc red, 2000 X reg, low mileage, good tyres, nippy, tidy little car, MoT February, (tax extra)

07407 489546

£685 ono

FORD KA 2008

1.3 ZeTec, tax Jan, mot June, alloy wheels, air con, e/m, stereo, good runner, absolute bargain

Tel: 07960 037146

£1995

HONDA

HONDA CIVIC

Silver,2001, 5 Speed Manual Petrol, Sunroof, 2 owners (same family), full service history,11mths MoT, 5mths tax, excellent condition, 80,000 miles

07584 252143

£1,900

HONDA CIVIC

1.6i VTEC SE Auto Petrol 5dr, (inc 3 months tax & MOT) 2001, NS scratched (superficial), Alarm, Sunroof, CD, Remote locking, 147,300 miles

07901678465

£500

HONDA CIVIC

Silver-special addition Inspire S. Owned by us from new. Service history. 2003, 5 Spd Manual Petrol, C/RL, Alarm, Aircon,New battery.MOT,sorned. 135,000 miles

07778214366

£750

Kia

KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 GLX

1997, 11 mnths MOT, 1998cc, Petrol, Manual, ABS, E/M, E/W, PAS, RC/L,

01249 815311

£950 ono

MINI

MINI COOPER 1.6

2009, 3 dr Manual, very low mileage 4,267, 1 Lady owner, British Racing Green, FSH

01491 839805

£8,999

Mitsubishi

MITSUBISHI EVOLUTION VIII

FQ340 MR. 2004, flame red, manual, petrol, full service history, mint condition, stunning car, category C, viewing highly recommended, 29,000 miles

07793 383536

£10,500 ovno

Motorbikes & Scooters

Piaggio Zip 100

PIAGGIO ZIP 100

2007 scooter..Tax & MoT June 2013. One lady owner. Reliable,economical & regularly serviced. Top box & chain lock. Buyer collects with cash,8740 miles

01865 371482

£495

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NISSAN FIGARO

1991 Figaro.Very good condition, 1991 automatic, turbo assisted, air conditioned, 998cc petrol engine, retro radio. Original key, electric windows, 68,000 miles

01869 347880

£4,300

Peugeot

PEUGEOT 206

S1.4, 2004, silver/pale blue, 5 door, 5 speed manual, petrol, C/RL, air con, CD, e/w, very low mileage, full service history, 29,000 miles

01225 868132

£2,695

Peugeot Boxer

PEUGEOT BOXER AUTOSLEEPER

Pollensa, 2003 2.0hdi fully equipped 4 berth motorhome, Tax/ MOT July 2013. Full service and habitation history.Great condition throughout. 49,800 miles

07765710323

£19,995

Renault

RENAULT CLIO

2001 Y reg, 1.4RT, 5 door, metallic grey, electric windows, central locking, PAS, sunroof, air conditioning, 10 months MOT

07813 947170 Melksham

£995

SMART

SMART FOR TWO COUPE

Silver, 2009, 5 Speed Auto Petrol, C/RL, Alarm, Aircon, Alloys, Sunroof, CD, heated seats,15,000 miles

01865 316870

£5,000

Vauxhall

VAUXHALL ASTRA

Silver, 2004, 5 speed manual, petrol, C/RL, alarm, air con, alloys, sunroof, CD, 88,500 miles

01380 739482

£2,100

VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.6I

5dr, 2007, Silver, Petrol, Manual, Airbag, ABS, Cruise Control, E/M, E/W, PAS, RC/L, S/R, Mot Sept 13, taxed on 31 Oct

£3,500 ono

01869327741

Vauxhall

VAUXHALL CORSA

P reg, green, full 6 months tax, MOT until April 2013, cheap insurance

Tel: 07944 290983

£400

Volkswagen

GOLF GT TDI

Hi-Line edition, 1900cc, 52 plate (2003), Full leather interior, 108,000 miles, 1 years MOT, Alloy wheels, Reversing sensors, Factory fitted alarm

Service history, careful lady owner.

07901761215

£3100

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF

Silver, 2001, 5 speed manual, petrol, alarm, air con, CD, 12 months MOT, good condition, very reliable, full service history, lady owner, 110,000 miles

01380 725478

£1,500

VOLVO

VOLVO XC90

Silver, 2006, Auto Diesel, Aircon, Alloys, Sunroof, CD, Leather heated seats, winter pack, 7 seats, full comprehensive warranty, any inspection welcome, 97,000 miles

07876 394413

£10,477

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£22.50

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Dudley
Sunday 25th November
£17.50

Worcester Victorian Xmas Fayre
Friday 30th November 2012
£22.50

Cheltenham & Xmas Market
Saturday 1st December 2012
£17.50

Capital City, London
Sunday 2nd December 2012
£22.50

Milton Keynes
Tuesday 4th December 2012
£15.00

Winchester Christmas Market
Saturday 8th December 2012
£22.50

London & Winter Wonderland
Sunday 16th December 2012
£22.50

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Aldwych Theatre
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£59.50
(Top Price Stalls Ticket)

Bodyguard The Musical

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(Stalls)

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Wednesday 13th March 2013
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(Stalls)

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LG Arena Birmingham
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